



Renewing Yesler's Promise City Council Briefing September 30, 2013

## **Major Accomplishments**

- Beginning construction for 98 replacement homes
- Relocating residents and providing them extensive counseling and assistance
- Transforming the steam plant into the Epstein Opportunity Center
- Implementing Community Workforce Agreement
- Incorporating community input to shape housing and neighborhood design
- Received approval of preliminary plat by Hearing Examiner
- Increasing summer learning opportunities
- Expanding job opportunities with neighborhood partners

## **Education Opportunities**

### **Goal:**

Ensure that Yesler Terrace neighborhood students receive the resources they need to obtain their educational and career goals and can experience financial stability as adults, free of government low-income housing subsidies









# Increasing Educational Opportunities

- 25 Yesler families participating in early learning parent-child home program
- 130 Yesler children and youth engaged in summer learning (up from 40 in 2011)
- 55% of 5th Grade Bailey Gatzert Elementary School students demonstrating proficiency in science
- Education Engagement Specialist supporting families and students

## **Economic Opportunities**

### Goal:

Assist Yesler residents in achieving financial stability



## **Expanding Economic Opportunities**

- 19 Yesler Terrace residents hired with the help of Economic Opportunities services (average wage = \$11.36/hour)
- 8 of those residents received jobs from job fairs and hiring events sponsored by employer partners
- 20 residents completed integrated ESL/Job Skills class
- 4 residents completed the SVI pre-apprenticeship construction training program



## **Improving Resident Health**

- New health clinic funded by the Families and Education Levy at Bailey Gatzert Elementary School
- Two community health educators connecting residents to healthcare resources
- Resident enrollment in expanded Medicaid program under the Affordable Healthcare Act



## Other Related Initiatives

- Seattle Foundation partnering with SHA to help leverage Choice Neighborhood grant with philanthropic and public investments
- Free wi-fi installed and available to all Yesler residents
- Department of Justice technical assistance funding awarded to SHA to develop public safety plan

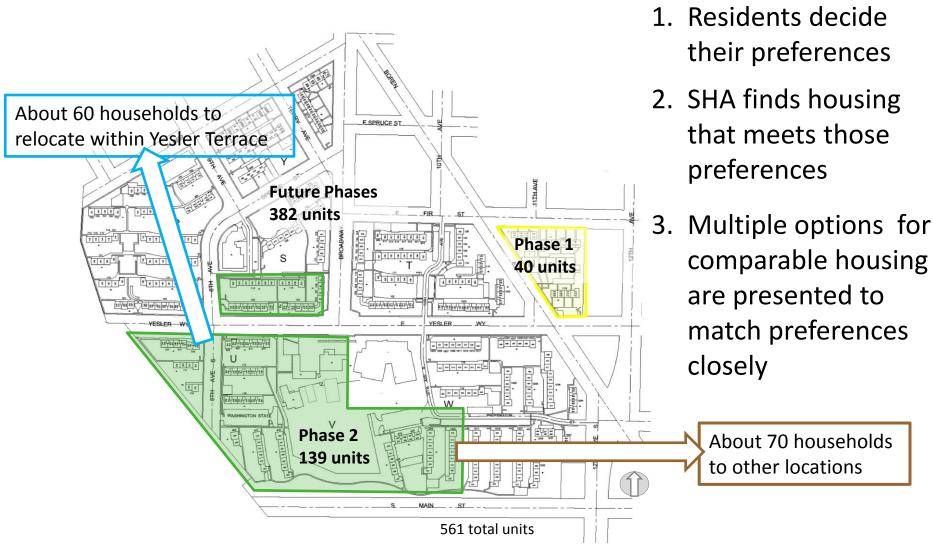


## **Phase 2 Relocation Underway**

- Relocation began in July 2012 with an 18-month notice
- 132 households to be relocated, comprised of 248 individuals out of the 1,200 total who live at Yesler Terrace
- Intensive individualized communication and support
- Attention paid to each resident's preferences and individual needs
- Ensuring each resident receives full moving benefits and understands their right to return to Yesler Terrace



### Residents Have Relocation Choices



## Where have residents chosen to go?

## Majority of households chose SHA housing at or within 2 miles of Yesler Terrace

### **92** chose SHA housing

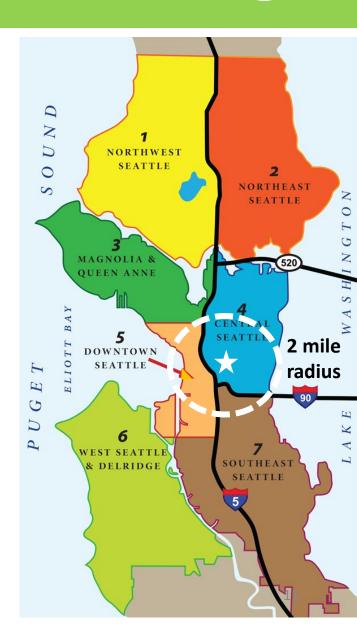
- 47 chose to move within Yesler Terrace
- **45** chose offsite SHA housing: Rainier Vista, NewHolly, International Terrace, Beacon Tower

#### **12** chose other housing

- private market using voucher: Seattle, King County, Bothell, Everett, Sequim

### 28 still deciding

**132** total households in Phase 2



## Supporting Residents During Relocation

### Families with school-aged children

- 31 families with total of 80 school children
- 7 of 27 Bailey Gatzert Elementary students will enroll elsewhere due to relocation
  - ✓ Each family received specialized counseling
  - ✓ Families were given relocation options during the summer
  - ✓ In partnership with Seattle Public Schools, SHA coordinated free transportation back to Yesler Terrace neighborhood schools for those who moved away

### **Moving Assistance**

- Residents shown multiple housing options based on their preferences
- Residents with special needs are offered case management support and packing assistance in addition to professional moving services paid for by SHA
- Multi-lingual staff available onsite to provide culturally tailored assistance

### **Support for Housing Choice Voucher participants**

- Everyone in Phase 2 who declared their preference for a voucher received one
- Classes with interpreters on how to succeed in the private market and use a voucher
- Extensive housing search assistance provided

## The Stories Behind the Numbers

- ❖ Mohamed and his family decided on a townhome at Rainier Vista. The kids continue their schooling at Bailey Gatzert with transportation assistance provided. They relish the second bathroom, which speeds up the morning routine
- Phy, an elderly resident, wanted to remain onsite to be close to Harborview and to keep connected with her friends at Yesler Terrace
- ❖ Bonnie, resident since 1954, settled in to her new home before her 81st birthday. She appreciates features at Center Park like level access to a bus stop, trash chutes, elevator
- ❖ Amelia and her son moved close to UW Bothell with a voucher. They plan to return to Seattle after she finishes college there
- Hiet, father of two, chose a scattered sites unit near Yesler Terrace that is just blocks away from his son's high school



## Thank you!





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